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Advertisement.

DESCENDANTS OF THE BOUNTY'S CREW, ON PITCAIRN'S ISLAND.

Captain HENDERSON, of the Ship Hercules, who had communication with the Descendants of the Crew of the Ship Bounty, on Pitcairn's Island, in his late voyage to South America, being about to return to that country, and intending to call again at Pitcairn's Island, has stated that a few Iron Tools for mechanical labours, and some of the ordinary Implements of Agriculture, would be of important service to those people; and has offered to take charge of any articles that may be confided to him for that purpose.

Any philanthropic Gentlemen who may be disposed to aid this benevolent work by their contributions, are respectfully informed that any sums for that purpose will be received by Mr. MATTHEW SMITH, Clive Street, who will undertake the task of expending it in the best manner, and of purchasing with it such Tools and Agricultural Implements as Captain HENDERSON may deem most likely to be of service to those Islanders, for whose benefit they are intended.

As it will be as desirable to furnish the means of improving the minds of these Islanders as to provide them with the materials for ameliorating their condition generally, it is suggested that donations of elementary books in English would be exceedingly useful, and acceptable for this purpose; and if sent to Mr. SMITH's, as above, will be delivered to Captain HENDERSON, and confided to his care and judgement for distribution.

Narrative.

The Advertisement which we have taken from its usual place, to affix at the head of our Journal of to-day, has already been before the Public, without having attracted perhaps that notice which the benevolent and important object it is intended to effect really deserves.

We are satisfied, however, that nothing more is necessary to interest the best feelings of every British bosom, in behalf of the Islanders of Pitcairn, than a simple recital of their history; and we have been fortunate enough to obtain from one of the Numbers of the Naval Chronicle, all the leading facts known concerning them, and present these to our readers as the best claims upon their bounty.

We may add, that from the same authority we learn that the recital of their story excited the most lively interest in England when it was first made known, and that there as well as here the first suggestion which arose out of it, was the propriety of furnishing them with implements of husbandry and of useful handicrafts, animals for breeding, seeds for cultivation, elementary books for reading, paper, &c. for writing, and in short,

those articles most obviously suited to their peculiar wants, and most likely to contribute to their comfort, to improve their minds, and to add to their present and future happiness.

The following are the leading particulars detailed of this singular, and at present highly interesting little colony:—

It is well known that in the year 1782, his Majesty's armed ship the Bounty, while employed in conveying the bread-fruit tree from Otaheite to the West Indies, was run away with by her men, and the captain and some of his officers put on board a boat, which, after a passage of 1200 leagues, providentially arrived at a Dutch settlement on the island of Timor. The mutineers, 25 in number, were supposed, from some expressions which escaped them, to have made sail towards Otaheite. As soon as this circumstance was made known to the Admiralty, Captain Edwards was ordered to proceed in the Pandora to that island, and endeavour to discover and bring to England the Bounty, with such of the crew as he might be able to secure. On his arrival, March 1791, at Matavai-bay, in Otaheite, four of the mutineers came voluntarily on board the Pandora to surrender themselves; and from information given by them, ten others (the whole number alive upon the island) were in the course of a few days taken; and, with the exception of four, who perished in the wreck of the Pandora, near Endeavour Straight, conveyed to England for trial before a court-martial, which adjudged six of them to suffer death, and acquitted the other four.

From the accounts given by these men, as well as from some documents that were preserved, it appeared, that as soon as Lieutenant Bligh had been driven from the ship, the 25 mutineers proceeded with her to Toobouai, where they proposed to settle; but the place being found to hold out little encouragement, they returned to Otaheite, and having there laid in a large supply of stock, they once more took their departure for Toobouai, carrying with them eight men, nine women, and seven boys, natives of Otaheite.

They commenced on their second arrival the building of a fort; but by divisions among themselves, and quarrels with the natives, the design was abandoned. Christian, the leader, also very soon discovered that his authority over his accomplices was at an end; he therefore proposed that they should return to Otaheite; that as many as chose it should be put on shore at that island, and that the rest should proceed in the ship to any other place they might think proper. Accordingly, they once more put to sea, and reached Matavai, 20th Sept. 1789.

Here 16 of the 25 desired to be landed, 14 of whom, as already mentioned, were taken on board the Pandora; of the other two, as reported by Coleman (the first who surrendered himself to Captain Edwards), one had been made a Chief, killed his companion, and was shortly afterwards murdered himself by the natives.

Christian, with the remaining eight of the mutineers, having taken on board several of the natives of Otaheite, the greater part women, put to sea 21st Sept. 1789; in the morn-

ing the ship was discovered from Point Venus, steering in a north-westerly direction; and here terminate the accounts given by the mutineers who were either taken or surrendered themselves at Matavai-bay. They stated, however, that Christian, on the night of his departure, was heard to declare, that he should seek for some uninhabited island, and, having established his party, break up the ship; but all endeavours of Captain Edwards to gain intelligence either of the ship or her crew, at any of the numerous islands visited by the Pandora, failed.

From this period, no information respecting Christian or his companions reached England for 20 years; when about the beginning of 1809, Sir Sidney Smith, then commander-in-chief on the Brazil station, transmitted to the Admiralty a paper, which he had received from Lieutenant Fitzmaurice, purporting to be an "Extract from the log-book of Captain Folger, of the American ship Topaz," and dated "Valparaiso, 10th October, 1808."

About the commencement of the year 1813, Rear-admiral Hotham, when cruising off New London, received a letter, addressed to the Lords of the Admiralty, of which the following is a copy, together with the azimuth compass, to which it refers:—

MY LORDS,

Nantucket, March 1, 1813.

The remarkable circumstance which took place on my last voyage to the Pacific Ocean, will, I trust, plead my apology for addressing your Lordships at this time. In February, 1818, I touched at Pitcairn's Island, in lat. 25° 2' S. lon. 130° W. from Greenwich.* My principal object was, to procure seal-skins for the China market; and, from the account given of the island in Captain Carteret's voyage, I supposed it was uninhabited; but, on approaching the shore in my boat, I was met by three young men in a double canoe, with a present, consisting of some fruit and a hog. They spoke to me in the English language, and informed me that they were born on the island, and their father was an Englishman, who had sailed with Captain Bligh.

After discoursing with them a short time, I landed with them, and found an Englishman, of the name of Alexander Smith, who informed me that he was one of the Bounty's crew, and that after putting Captain Bligh in the boat, with half the ship's company, they returned to Otaheite, where part of their crew chose to tarry; but Mr. Christian, with eight others, including himself, preferred going to a more remote place; and, after making a short stay at Otaheite where they took wives and six men servants, they proceeded to Pitcairn's island, where they destroyed the ship, after taking every thing out of her which they thought would be useful to them. About six years after they landed at this place, their servants attacked and killed all the English, excepting the informant, and he was severely wounded. The same night, the Otaheitean widows arose and murdered all their countrymen, leaving Smith with the widows and children, where he had resided ever since without being resisted.

I remained but a short time on this island, and on leaving it, Smith presented to me a time-piece, and an azimuth compass, which he told me belonged to the Bounty. The time-keeper was taken from me by the governor of the island of Juan Fernandez, after I had it in my possession about six weeks. The compass I put in repair on board my ship, and made use of it on my homeward passage, since which a new card has been put to it by an instrument-maker in Boston. I now forward it to your Lordships, thinking there will be a kind of satisfaction in receiving it, merely from the extraordinary circumstances attending it.

MATHEW FOLGER.

* In the Charts, where it is called La Incarnacion or Pitcairn's Island, it is laid down in about the same latitude, but in longitude 15° 0' W. of Greenwich.

Nearly about the same time, a further account of these interesting people was received from Vice-admiral Dixon, in a letter addressed to him by Sir Thomas Staines, of his Majesty's ship *Briton*, of which the following is a copy:—

SIR,

Briton, Valparaiso, Oct. 18, 1814.

I have the honour to inform you, that on my passage from the Marquesas islands, to this port, on the morning of 17th September, I fell in with an island where none is laid down in the Admiralty or other charts, according to several chronometers of the *Briton* and *Tagus*. I therefore hove-to until daylight, and then closed to ascertain whether it was inhabited, which I soon discovered it to be, and to my great astonishment, found that every individual on the island (40 in number) spoke very good English. They proved to be the descendants of the deluded crew of the *Bounty*, which, from Otaheite, proceeded to the abovementioned island, where the ship was burnt.

Christian appeared to have been the leader and the sole cause of the mutiny in that ship. A venerable old man, named John Adams, is the only surviving Englishman of those who last quitted Otaheite in her, and whose exemplary conduct and fatherly care of the whole little colony, could not but command admiration. The pious manner in which all those born in this island have been reared, the correct sense of religion which has been instilled into their young minds by this old man, has given him the pre-eminence over the whole of them, to whom they look up as the father of the whole and one family.

A son of Christian was the first-born on the island, now about 25 years of age (named Thursday-October-Christian); the elder Christian fell a sacrifice to the jealousy of an Otaheitean man, within three or four years after their arrival on the island. They were accompanied thither by six Otaheitean men, and twelve women; the former were all swept away by desperate contentions between them and the Englishmen, and five of the latter have died at different periods, leaving at present only one man and several women of the original settlers.

The island must undoubtedly be that called Pitcairn's, although erroneously laid down in the charts. We had the meridian sun close to it, which gave us 25° 4' S. lat. and 130° 25' W. long. by chronometers of the *Briton* and *Tagus*.

It is abundant in yams, plantains, hogs, goats, and fowls, but affords no shelter for a ship or vessel of any description; neither could a ship water there without great difficulty.

I cannot refrain from offering my opinion, that it is well worthy the attention of our laudable religious societies, particularly that for propagating the Christian Religion, the whole of the inhabitants speaking the Otaheitean tongue as well as English.

During the whole of the time they have been on the island, only one vessel has ever communicated with them, which took place about six years since, by an American ship called the *Topaz*, of Boston, Mayhew Folger, master.

The island is completely iron-bound with rocky shores, and landing in boats at all times difficult, although safe to approach within a short distance in a ship.

T. STAINES.

We have been favoured with some further particulars of this singular society, which, we doubt not, will interest our readers as much as they have ourselves. As the real position of the island was ascertained to be so far distant from that in which it is usually laid down in the charts, and as the captains of the *Briton* and *Tagus* seem to have still considered it as uninhabited, they were not a little surprised, on approaching its shores, to behold plantations regularly laid out, and huts or houses more neatly constructed than those on the Marquesas islands. When about two miles from the shore, some natives

were observed bringing down their canoes on their shoulders, dashing through a heavy surf, and paddling off to the ships; but their astonishment was unbounded, on hearing one of them, on approaching the ship, call out in the English language, "Won't you heave us a rope, now?"

The first man who got on board the Briton soon proved who they were. His name, he said, was Thursday-October-Christian, the first-born on the island. He was then about 25 years of age, and is described as being a fine young man, about six feet high, his hair deep black, his countenance open and interesting, of a brownish cast, but free from that mixture of a reddish tint, which prevails on the Pacific Islands; his only dress was a piece of cloth round his loins, and a straw hat, ornamented with the black feathers of the domestic fowl.—"With a great share of good humour," says Captain Pipon, "we were glad to trace in his benevolent countenance all the features of an honest English face; and I must confess, I could not survey this interesting person without feelings of tenderness and compassion." His companion was named George Young, a fine youth, about 18.

If the astonishment of the captain was great on hearing their first salutation in English, their surprise and interest were not a little increased on Sir Thomas Staines taking the youths below, and setting before them something to eat; when one of them rose up, and placing his hands together in a posture of devotion, distinctly repeated, and in a pleasing tone and manner—"For what we are going to receive, the Lord make us truly thankful." They expressed great surprise on seeing a cow on board the Briton, and were in doubt whether she was a great goat or a horned sow.

The two captains of his Majesty's ships accompanied these young men on shore. With some difficulty, and a good wetting, and with the assistance of their conductors, they accomplished a landing through the surf, and were soon after met by John Adams, a man between 50 and 60, who conducted them to his house. His wife accompanied him, a very old lady blind with age. He was at first alarmed, lest the visit was to apprehend him. But on being told that they were perfectly ignorant of his existence, he was relieved from his anxiety. Being once assured that this visit was of a peaceable nature, it is impossible to describe the joy these poor people manifested, on seeing those whom they were pleased to consider as their countrymen. Yams, cocoa-nuts, and other fruits, with fine fresh eggs, were laid before them; and the old man would have killed and dressed a hog for his visitors, but time would not allow them to partake of his intended feast.

This interesting new colony, it seemed, now consisted of about 46 persons, mostly grown up young people, besides a number of infants. The young men, all born on the island, were very athletic, and of the finest forms—their countenances open and pleasing, indicating much benevolence and goodness of heart; but the young women were objects of particular admiration, tall, robust, and beautifully formed, their faces beaming with smiles and unruffled good humour, but wearing a degree of modesty and bashfulness that would do honour to the most virtuous nation on earth; their teeth, like ivory were regular and beautiful, without a single exception; and all of them, both male and female, had the most marked English features.

The clothing of the young females consisted of a piece of linen reaching from the waist to the knees, and generally a sort of mantle thrown loosely over the shoulders, and hanging as low as the ankles; but this covering appeared to be intended chiefly as a protection against the sun and the weather, as it was frequently laid aside—and then the upper part of the body was entirely exposed, and it is not possible to conceive more beautiful forms than they exhibited. They sometimes wreath caps or bonnets for the head, in the most tasteful manner,

to protect the face from the rays of the sun; and though, as Captain Pipon observes, they have only had the instruction of their Otaheitean mothers, "our dress-makers in London would be delighted with the simplicity, and yet elegant taste, of these untaught females."

Their native modesty, assisted by a proper sense of religion and morality, instilled into their youthful minds by John Adams, has hitherto preserved these interesting people perfectly chaste, and free from all kinds of debauchery. Adams assured the visitors, that since Christian's death there had not been a single instance of any young woman proving unchaste, nor any attempt at seduction on the part of the men. They all labour while young in the cultivation of the ground; and when possessed of a sufficient quantity of cleared land and of stock to maintain a family, they are allowed to marry, but always with the consent of Adams, who unites them by a sort of marriage-ceremony of his own.

The greatest harmony prevails in this little society; their only quarrels, and these rarely happened, being, according to their own expression, "quarrels of the mouth;" they are honest in their dealings, which consist of bartering different articles for mutual accommodation. Their habitations are extremely neat. The little village of Pitcairn forms a pretty square, the houses at the upper end of which are occupied by the patriarch, John Adams, and his family, consisting of his old blind wife, and three daughters, from 15 to 18 years of age, and a boy of 11; a daughter of his wife by a former husband, and a son-in-law. On the opposite side is the dwelling of Thursday-October-Christian; and in the centre is a smooth verdant lawn, on which the poultry are let loose, fenced in so as to prevent the intrusion of the domestic quadrupeds..

All that was done was obviously undertaken on a settled plan, unlike to any thing to be met with on the other islands. In their houses, too, they had a good deal of decent furniture, consisting of beds laid upon bedsteads, with neat covering; they had also tables, and large chests to contain their valuables and clothing, which is made from the bark of a certain tree prepared chiefly by the elder Otaheitean females. Adams's house consisted of two rooms, and the windows had shutters to close at night. The younger part of the females are, as before stated, employed with their brothers, under the direction of their common father, Adams, in the culture of the ground, which produced cocoa-nuts, bananas, bread-fruit tree, yams, sweet potatoes, and turnips. They have also plenty of hogs and goats. The woods abound with a species of wild hog, and the coasts of the island with several kinds of good fish.

Their agricultural implements are made by themselves, from the iron supplied by the Bounty, which, with great labour, they beat out into spades, hatchets, &c. This was not all. The good old man kept a regular journal, in which was entered the nature and quantity of work performed by each family, what each had received, and what was due on account:—There was, it seems, besides private property, a sort of general stock, out of which articles were issued on account of the several members of the community; and for mutual accommodation, exchanges of one kind of provision for another were very frequent, as salt for fresh provision, vegetables and fruit for poultry, fish, &c.; also, when the stores of one family were low, or wholly expended, a fresh supply was raised from another, or out of the general stock, to be repaid when circumstances were more favourable; all of which were carefully noted down in Adams's journal.

But what was most gratifying to all to the visitors was the simple and unaffected manner in which they returned thanks to the Almighty for the many blessings they enjoyed. They never failed to say grace before and after meals, to pray every morning at sun-rise, and they frequently repeated the Lord's Prayer and the Creed. "It was truly pleasing," says Captain

Pipon, "to see these poor people so well disposed to listen so attentively to moral instruction, to believe in the attributes of God, and to place their reliance on Divine goodness." The day on which the two captains landed was Saturday, 17th Sept.; but by John Adams's account it was Sunday the 18th, and they were keeping the Sabbath by making it a day of rest and of prayer.—This was occasioned by the Bounty having proceeded thither by the eastern route, and our frigates having gone to the westward; and the Topaz found them right according to his own reckoning, she having also approached the island from the eastward. Every ship from Europe proceeding to Pitcairn's island round the Cape of Good Hope, will find them a day later—as those who approach them round Cape Horn, a day in advance; as was the case with Captain Folger, and Captains Sir T. Staines and Pipon.

The visit of the Topaz is, of course, a notable circumstance, marked down in Adams's journal. The first ship described off the island was on 27th December, 1795.; but as she did not approach the land, they could not make out to what nation she belonged. A second appeared some time after, but did not attempt to communicate with them. A third came sufficiently near to see the natives and their habitations, but did not attempt to send a boat on shore; which is less surprising, considering the uniform ruggedness of the coast, the total want of shelter, and the almost constant and violent breaking of the sea against the cliffs. The good old man was anxious to know what was going on in the old world, and they had the means of gratifying his curiosity, by supplying him with some magazines and modern publications. His library consisted of the books that belonged to Admiral Bligh, but the visitors had not time to inspect them.

They inquired particularly after Fletcher Christian. This ill-fated young man, it seems, was never happy after the rash and inconsiderate step which he had taken; he became sullen and morose, and practised the very same kind of conduct towards his companions in guilt, which he and they so loudly complained of in their late commander. Disappointed in his expectations at Otaheite, and the Friendly Islands, and most probably dreading a discovery, this deluded youth committed himself and his remaining confederates to the mere chance of being cast upon some desert island; and chance threw them on that of Pitcairn. Finding no anchorage near it, he ran the ship upon the rocks, cleared her of the live stock and other articles which they had been supplied with at Otaheite, when he set her on fire, that no trace of inhabitants might be visible, and all hope of escape cut off from himself and his wretched followers. He soon, however, disgusted both his own countrymen and the Otaheiteans, by his oppressive and tyrannical conduct; they divided into parties, and disputes, affrays, and murders, were the consequence. His Otaheitean wife died within a twelvemonth from their landing, after which he carried off one that belonged to an Otaheitean man, who watched for an opportunity of taking revenge, and shot him dead while digging in his own field. Thus terminated the miserable existence of this deluded young man, who was neither deficient in talent, energy, nor connexions, and who might have risen in the service, and become an ornament to his profession.

John Adams declared, as it was natural enough he should do, his abhorrence of the crime in which he was implicated, and said that he was sick at the time in his hammock:—this, we understand, is not true, though he was not particularly active in the mutiny:—he expressed the utmost willingness to surrender himself, and be taken to England; indeed, he rather seemed to have an inclination to revisit his native country; but the young men and women flocked round him, and with tears and entreaties begged that their father and protector might not be taken from them, for without him they must all perish. It would have been an act of the greatest inhumanity to remove him from the island; and it is hardly necessary to add, that Sir

Thomas Staines lent a willing ear to their entreaties, thinking, no doubt, (as we feel strongly disposed to think), that, if he were even among the most guilty, his care and success in instilling religious and moral principles into the minds of this young and interesting society, have, in a great degree, redeemed his former crimes.

This island is about six miles long by three broad, covered with wood, and the soil, of course, very rich, situated under the parallel of 25° S. latitude; and in the midst of such a wide expanse of ocean, the climate must be fine, and admirably adapted for the reception of all the vegetable productions of every part of the habitable globe. Small, therefore, as Pitcairn's Island may appear, there can be little doubt that it is capable of supporting many inhabitants, and the present stock being of so good a description, we trust they will not be neglected. In the course of time the Patriarch must go hence; and we think it will be exceedingly desirable, that the British nation should provide for such an event, by sending out, not an ignorant and idle missionary, but some zealous and intelligent instructor, together with a few persons capable of teaching the useful trades or professions. On Pitcairn's Island there are better materials to work upon than missionaries have yet been so fortunate as to meet with, and the best results may reasonably be expected.—Something we are bound to do for these blameless and interesting people. The articles recommended by Captain Pipon appear to be highly proper—working tools, implements of agriculture, seeds for cultivation, a proper selection of books, and materials for writing.

These blameless and interesting people have, we think, the largest claims on our liberality; and the public spirited and benevolent exertions of Captain Henderson and Mr. Smith, to procure for them such articles as they needed, cannot be too highly praised. We understand that the sum of 3,000 rupees has been already laid out in supplies for them, under Captain Henderson's direction; tho' from the circumstances of their case not having been perhaps sufficiently laid before the Public, the subscriptions actually received do not amount to more than 1,000 rupees; but we are satisfied that this fact needs only to be made known, in order to be remedied, and as the ship dropped down the river from Calcutta yesterday, no time should be lost in conveying to Mr. Smith whatever the spontaneous benevolence of those whose eye this may reach, may feel disposed to contribute on their behalf. A selection of elementary books for teaching the English language has been made, to which has been added about twenty volumes of the most easy and useful works, with bibles and prayer books, and an excellent copy of the Circle of the Mechanical Arts describing in plain language every trade and handicraft known, with engravings to help the explanation of what would be difficult to understand, and a supply of stationary and materials for writing.

Among other articles, an excellent boat, of which they were particularly in want, has been furnished; and a number of useful tools and implements to enable them to do much for themselves. Some live stock will be taken to them to promote a breed of useful animals, and we hear that Dr. Wallich has furnished an ample and choice selection of all the seeds that are most suited to the climate and to the wants of the inhabitants.

We shall not presume to offer any common place eulogies on the exercise of charity towards our fellow creatures; but we cannot refrain from saying that if there be any case, in which the performance of that heaven-descended virtue be likely to produce greater benefits or yield more delight to both the givers and receivers of it, than another; this case of the descendants of our countrymen on Pitcairn's Island, to which we have this day drawn the attention of the Public, is decidedly one of that description.

ASIA

Bombay.—The *Bombay Courier* of the 19th of June, which came to hand yesterday, has the following paragraphs:

"A very valuable addition has been made by the late arrivals from England to the library of our Literary Society; several rare and esteemed old editions of the classics, works on theology and biblical criticism, church history, ancient geography, oriental literature &c. with many excellent new publications have been just received."

The most remarkable occurrence of the past week, that we have to record, is a slight shock of an earthquake, which was very perceptibly felt in various parts of this island at about 20 minutes past seven of the evening of Wednesday the 16th. The shock did not last about a minute, and caused no damage; indeed the concussion was so slight that many persons did not notice it, and entertain doubts of its having taken place. So many people, residing in different parts of the island, however, have related that they felt, about the same instant of time, a slight shaking of their dwelling houses, accompanied with an unusual tremulous motion of the lamps, that we have no doubt on the subject.

Indore, May 5.—We have been favoured, says the Editor of the *Bombay Courier*, with the perusal of a private letter dated Indore, May 15th, giving some account of the marriage of His Highness Mulhar Row Holkar to Chanda Bye. The celebration of the marriage ceremony took place on the 3d of May, on which occasion the Resident, with Sir John Malcolm, accompanied by a number of officers, were present, and made the customary presents to the Maharajah, to his mother Kyssera Bye, and to his two consorts Jejee Bye and Chanda Bye. From the durbar, they accompanied the Maharajah in procession to the bride's mansion, where he retired to a separate apartment in which the marriage rites were performed. The bride being of Rajpoot extraction, and of a higher caste than the bridegroom, a peculiar ceremony was in consequence observed. In Hindoo marriages, it is the custom for the bridegroom to stand on one side of a suspended cloth, the bride being on the other side; upon the Brahmin's clapping his hands, the cloth is dropped and the bride advancing to her husband, throws a garland over his neck, they are then constituted man and wife. But on this occasion, a sword was substituted in the place of the Maharajah, and the bride was formally married to the sword. The signification of this strange ceremony is said to be, that the sword of state prevails over the consideration of caste.

After the Maharajah had returned to the assembly, his young bride was brought in, veiled, in her bridal attire, and seated by his side. She was between nine and ten years of age, and very good looking and fair, of which she allowed the assembly to judge by uncovering her face without any affectation of reserve.

The new married couple went from the bride's house, seated on the same elephant, in procession round the city with great pomp and parade, and the ceremony was not terminated till midnight.

On the 7th of May the Maharajah gave a marriage entertainment to the Resident, Sir John Malcolm, &c. and this has been succeeded by a series of entertainments given daily to the various officers of Government, the principal citizens, Brahmins, Marhattahs, Mussulmans, &c. &c."

Madras.—The *Madras Government Gazette* of the 24th of June, contains the following paragraph:

"The weather at Madras has been very unusual for the season; the land winds we have had, have not been hot—nor have the showers expected at this time of the year, fallen—but the breezes or southerly winds, generally commencing at an early hour, have prevailed.—To the northward about Masulipatam, they have had Rain, attended by some severe Thunder

Storms; in one of these the Lightning struck a Bungalow, in which were three Gentlemen—the electric fluid was seen in the Hall for an instant after it had struck through the thatch—appearing like a large ball of fire, which almost immediately burst, "with the report and in the manner of a 14 inch shell"—the Bungalow was in flames in a moment, and was burnt to the ground—but fortunately no one was hurt—the sound, however, our Correspondent writes, did not cease to din the ears of those who were in the building, till next day, so that they could not hear the Thunder, which is described by others to have been tremendous. The Land Winds are stated to be over and the weather cool."

Satires in India.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

I have this moment seen an attempt at wit in the Government Gazette of Thursday last, signed "Q. IN THE CORNER," the illiberality and grossness of which is only equalled by its dulness. When an author submits his work to the public eye, he is well aware that he must undergo the ordeal of criticism; but such criticism ought to be free from scurrility and abuse.

I have the pleasure of being slightly acquainted with the author of "Satires in India," and from what little I have seen, his character is as dissimilar from that of Pælus, as "Q's" is from that of a gentlemanly critic. Whether he be a fool or not, better judges than "Q" may have, perhaps 'ere this, determined. I, for one, consider myself under an obligation to him for the rays of genius with which he has enlightened Indian society, although perhaps not equal in "Q's" opinion to the coruscations emanating from the scintillations of fierce lightnings in another quarter.

I should recommend "Q" to be more correct in any future quotations he may take from any work for the purpose of criticism.

Calcutta, July 9, 1819.

—X—

Civil and Army List Drollery.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

The following curious collection of Things and Animals, sent out by the Honorable East India Company, will be found in the Index to the Civil and Military List upon this establishment.

X. Y. Z.

A Church, 2 Bishops, 3 Parsons, a Pew, a Warden, 10 Bells, and 7 Clarks. There are also 9 Halls, 4 Chambers, and a Garret. We have likewise amongst us 5 Kings, 2 Earls, 9 Marshalls, and 3 Knights; and a very fine Orchard, in which there are 3 Peaches, a Primrose, and 2 Oranges, besides Pears.

The Company however appear to have been particularly anxious to send us enough of those who engross the next article, viz.: 42 Smiths, 20 Taylors, 9 Turners, 8 Bakers, 5 Coopers, 2 Carpenters, 2 Cartwrights, a Mason, a Sailor, a Tanner, 10 good Walkers, and 3 exceedingly good Trotters.

That we should not want for Fish, they have sent us a Whale, a brace of Salmon, 2 Herrings, a large Hake, a Smelt, and a Crab, together with a Salter and Cook, with Pepper and Butter.

With respect to Oaks, Pines, Groves, and Caves, they are innumerable, in which by the bye are 2 Lions, a Wolf, 4 Hares, a Fox, and a Griffin; and to attack these, we have 2 Forresters and 8 Hunters.

We have also with us some that Gamble, and 3 who were never known to Playfair, and lastly, Mr. Editor, to keep us all in order, they have sent us a Birch.

X. Y. Z.

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15.

PROSTITUTES IN LONDON.

The Sheriffs of London presented a Petition from the Lord Mayor and Common Council of London, on the subject of the number of female prostitutes in the City, and on the difficulty of putting down the many houses where they were harboured.

Mr. Alderman Wood observed, that the subject was one of great importance to the health and morals of the rising generation he hoped that the Law officers of the Crown would take up the subject, and to put an end to an evil arising out of the confinement of those depraved females with paupers and others who had been guilty of no offences. If the other side of the House did not think the matter worthy its attention, he would submit a measure upon the subject on some future occasion.

SLAVE TRADE.

Lord Castlereagh brought up a large mass of papers relative to negotiations with Foreign Powers, on the subject of the Slave Trade. Some other documents were also subjoined.

Mr. Wilberforce said, that the documents were two voluminous to be taken into consideration to-morrow, as his Lordship had proposed.

Lord Castlereagh concurred, that Members could not be prepared for a discussion on the subject until the papers had been printed; he therefore did not object to postpone his notice until Friday next.

Mr. Smyth observed, that he wished to obtain from the Noble Lord some information on another important point connected with this interesting question. The House was aware that Conventions had been signed between this Country and Spain and Portugal, for the establishment of Commissioners for the adjudication of captured slave ships on the Coast of Africa, in South America, and in the Island of Trinidad. The ratifications of those Conventions were to be exchanged within a limited time; and at the expiration of twelve months at the latest, the Commissions were to be established. He wished to know whether that desirable object had yet been accomplished, and if not, when it was probable that it would be attained.

Lord Castlereagh remarked, that there were three Conventions—one with the King of the Netherlands, on which no enactment had yet been founded; and two others with Spain and Portugal: as to the latter, two Bills had been passed, to enable Government to act upon the Conventions; but, without going into detail, he could state that, with the utmost anxiety on the part of Ministers to complete the object in view, they had experienced great difficulty in filling up the list of Commissioners.

Mr. Wilberforce, complained that a strange delay had occurred in sending out the Commissioners. He did not mean to impute it to the Noble Lord opposite; but the House should know that every day which was suffered to pass before they went out, signed the death-warrant of hundreds of their fellow-creatures.—(Hear, hear!)—He trusted he need not add any thing further, to urge the sending those Commissioners out. If they could be sent even a week sooner than was intended, the lives of thousands might be saved by it.

Dr. Phillimore put a question to Lord Castlereagh, on the subject of the instructions (we believe) given to the Commissioners of Spain and Portugal; but neither that, nor his Lordship's answer were sufficiently distinct in the gallery, to be given with a hope of accuracy.

WAGER OF BATTLE.

The Attorney-General in moving that the Bill for Repealing the Law of Appeal by Wager of Battle in Criminal Cases, and in Writs of Right, be committed, observed, that he had been accused of hurrying this measure through the House, and, as it were, of having taken the House by surprise. This he positively denied; and he appealed to the recollection of several Members who were in the last Parliament, whether he had not, in its last Session, given notice of his intention to bring the measure forward. He had not then named a day, because, as he knew that there were different opinions upon the subject, he wished to afford Gentlemen an opportunity of giving the subject the most mature consideration,

However, from the then late period of the Session, he had not pressed it; and the more particularly, as he conceived that no inconvenience could arise from the continuance of the law as it stood to the present Session. On the 2d of February he gave notice of his intention to bring the subject before the House; and he was so far from wishing to hurry it through, that if any Honorable Member had wished for a further delay, he would have been most willing to have afforded it. In passing the Bill through the Committee at present, he would propose some verbal amendments; but there was a material one which he intended to propose afterwards, which applied to appeals in cases of treason abroad. An Honorable Member had on a former evening expressed a doubt whether such right of appeal did not exist as a law. Upon examining into the matter, he had found, that that law was in effect virtually repealed; for it could only be tried in the High Court of Chivalry, which Court was not in existence at present. However, as it had not been expressly repealed by any Statute, he would include it in his Bill, and set the matter at rest.

Sir F. Burdett wished to save one part of the law of appeal—that which was made in cases of murder; and he intended, when the Bill was recommitted, to submit an amendment to that effect. He admitted it would be a hardship to have any man liable to be tried twice for the same offence; but he considered the right of appeal in such cases necessary, as a protection against an undue exercise of the power of the Crown in pardoning persons convicted of murder.

Sir J. Mackintosh would have offered himself upon this subject on a former occasion, if he had anticipated any serious objection to the Bill; but he considered it so wise and so much called for a measure, that he did not imagine any individual would have opposed it. He would listen with pleasure to any arguments which might be offered in favour of the appeal in cases of murder; but he professed he did not see how any part of the law could be suffered to remain, without leaving a principle equally inconsistent with humanity and justice. (Hear, hear.) The objections to the repeal of that part of it which applied to cases of murder, rested upon no better authority than the observations of Junius upon the case of the Kennedys.

The Bill then passed through the Committee *pro forma*. The Report was received, and ordered to be taken into further consideration on Monday next.

REPEAL OF THE USURY LAWS.

Mr. Sergeant Onslow moved the second reading of the Bill for the Repeal of the Usury Laws.

Mr. Calcraft did not intend to offer any objection to the Bill in its present stage, nor to its going into a Committee; but when the Report of the Committee should be brought up, he should feel it his duty to give the measure every opposition in his power.

Mr. Protheroe considered, that in the present state of the country the proposed-repeal would be too bold a measure, and hoped the Hon. and Learned Gentleman would withdraw it at least until the next Session. In the present state of commercial credit, he considered the measure would be very hazardous.

Sergeant Onslow replied, that he did not intend to go into the discussion of the measure at present. He was as anxious as any man that the fullest discussion should take place upon the Bill, which he considered as highly important.

The Bill was read a second time, and ordered to be committed on Wednesday. In answer to a question from Mr. Calcraft, Sergeant Onslow said, that it was his intention to move that the Report be brought up on Thursday.

Mr. Lushington brought up the Report of the Exchequer Bill, which was agreed to, and the Bill ordered to be read a third time to-morrow.

Sir J. Newport moved for a return of the number and description of the persons employed in the collection of Customs in Dublin, for the three years ending in 1812 (*we believe*) with the amount collected by each, and a specification of the articles on which such collection was made; and also an account of the Salaries of the Collectors. He also moved for a similar return of the Collectors of Excise.—Ordered.

Colonel Wood presented a Petition from the Land-owners and Farmers of Brecknockshire, praying that the House might take the present state of the Corn Laws into consideration.—Ordered to lie on the table.

Son of the Morning.

To the Editor of the Calcutta Journal.

Sir,

Accept my best thanks for your prompt notice of my Query respecting the mysterious personage invoked by Childe Harold as "Son of the Morning,"—and allow me to express my doubt whether the metaphorical stranger has yet dropped his mask. Is it not incongruous to invoke the Devil in the character of an Angel of Light, the favored Minister of Heaven, when the object, according to your reading, is to deprecate the wrath of the Foe of human kind? It may be said, no doubt, that we should speak our enemy fair, when we wish to propitiate him; but surely the Childe Harold knew his man better than to imagine that the Prince of Lies was to be caught by an ill-timed compliment, that reminded him only of his horned beams. (1)

And here, by the bye, it may be observed, that though Lucifer is called the Star, it is not usual to call him the Son of the Morning, nor is it probable that Lord Byron would have preferred the latter epithet as more poetical than the former. But admitting that Lucifer is meant; why bid him rise, unless with allusion to his being the Star of Light, in which character he sheds no malign influence on the destiny of man? (2) And why bid him rise *at all*, if his aspect be evil: why rouse him from his slumbers but to deprecate his waking ire? Would he not have reason to be out of humour too when asked, according to your punctuation, *why he approached*, seeing that he had actually come at your own bidding? (3) Finally, the expression "*approach you here*," put either as a question or as a request, implies too close and familiar an approximation to the Speaker to be well applicable to the invocation of a Star in the Heavens, or of the Devil in person, who is every where at once, and it may be said, always at our elbow, without the formality of a special invitation. (4)

It strikes me that the Noble Bard has some humbler individual in his eye—some being of flesh and blood like himself—who he invites to gaze with him on the moral scene before them; but warns against the commission of the act of sacrilege with which he proceeds on the ensuing Stanzas of the same Canto to charge a fellow "Son of the Morning"—Lord Elgin.

I remain, &c.

A SUBSCRIBER.

(1) Neither Milton nor Byron probably thought of pleasing Satan or otherwise, in the pictures which they drew of him, or in the terms by which they addressed him. The fact of any language being an ill or well-timed compliment would therefore hardly affect their meaning or intention, or be sufficient ground on which to deny that they meant it of Satan, because it was ill-timed; that affects only the consistency of poetry as judged by the rules of conduct in ordinary life—and if any poets may be permitted to soar above these, Milton and Byron have the highest claims.

(2) Are not all the malign influences often attributed in poetry, mythology, and traditional belief, to the influence of stars of light, and conjunctions of the still brighter planets?

(3) Whether Satan was in or out of humour, must we think be a very immaterial consideration in such a case, and if every poetic invocation were judged by such a string of questions, we might ask them without end, on every address to the Muses, to Liberty, to the Spirit of Divine Inspiration and to all that is invoked in aid of poetic feeling; but as in the present instance, any one who felt the beauty of the poetry would, we should think, scarcely interrupt the flow of it to answer every query that might arise.

(4) Yet nothing is more frequent in the exalted poetry of the Scriptures than the most familiar expressions towards the Holy Spirit emanating from the Most High, and operating in the hearts of his creatures. The royal Poet of Israel abounds with examples and Job reasons with his Master as with his fellow; while if it be true that the "Devil is always at our elbows" the familiarity of the invocation could surely be no objection.

(5) It is probable, as we before admitted, that the meaning of the noble Author may not be that which struck us at this first reading, but we really cannot see any better reason why Lord Elgin should be called a fellow "Son of the Morning." If it were really meant of any individual of flesh and blood—it would be more likely to be meant of Lord Elgin himself than of any immediate companion—and in such case, it could only be in the spirit in which Byron deprecates his plunder of the Temples of Minerva and Theseus, and his stripping the Athenian Acropolis of its sculptured treasures as a spoliation in every sense Satanic!

We confess that we approve of the mode adopted by our friend and correspondent to make the difficulty known; as no doubt some of the admirers of this even now immortal Bard, (for where has he not admirers?) will gratify both A subscriber and ourselves by a more ready solution of the passage.

Military

BOMBAY GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

General Orders, by the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council; Bombay Castle, June 10, 1819.

The Honorable the Court of Directors having intimated in the 10th and 11th paragraphs of their despatch dated the 12th of August, published in Government General Order of the 31st of March last, that it was not their intention that the personal allowances granted by the Government orders of the 13th August 1817 to officers of the Engineers, whilst attached to Garrisons or Districts, as executive officers, should have permanent operation, but only so long as such officers may be employed upon Public Buildings or other occasional and necessary works; the Governor in Council is pleased to notify that Engineer officers appointed to Garrisons or at Stations where the Troops may not be in the receipt of Field allowances, and being unemployed on Public Buildings, or other occasional and necessary works, shall draw the Garrison-Pay and allowances of their rank only.

Before any Public Building or other occasional or necessary work be undertaken, the Chief Engineer shall state on the estimate the period within which the work ought to be completed, which shall regulate the amount of the allowances to be received under the orders of the 13th of August 1817, nor shall any allowance whatever be granted beyond such period without the special orders of the Government, to whom the fullest explanations are to be afforded of the cause, or cause which may have prevented the completion of the works within the prescribed period.

When an Engineer officer may be employed in superintending at the same time several works at one or more stations, and it may be difficult to estimate the time in which they ought to be completed, he is to accompany his Abstract for the extra allowances with the following declaration on honor, to be countersigned by the Chief Military Authority at the station, or by the head of the department in case of his having been employed in Civil Buildings.

"I do solemnly declare upon honor, that either in the preparation of plans, estimates, or accounts connected with Public works or repairs, ordered at this station or in the Superintendence of their execution I have been employed from (enter time).

Date of time and place:

Signature.

Bombay Castle, 12th June, 1819.

Lieutenant and Brevet Captain J. K. Clibley, of the 3d Regiment of Madras Light Cavalry, having produced the prescribed Medical Certificate of the necessity of his proceeding to Sea for the recovery of his health, is allowed a furlough on that account for a period of six months from the date of his embarkation.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to appoint Assistant Surgeon John MacNeill, to the situation of Deputy Medical Store-keeper at the Presidency, vice Harrison—date of appointment 1st June 1819.

Bombay Castle, 14th June, 1819.

Mr. R. Martin, having produced the counterpart of his covenant as an assistant Surgeon for this Presidency and Mr. Dennis Lethern Victor a Certificate from the Secretary at the East India House of his appointment as Cadet of Infantry for Bombay, they are admitted on the Establishment from the 8th Instant, the date of their arrival in the licensed ship Stokesby, and the latter is promoted to the rank of Ensign; date of rank to be settled hereafter.

The following promotion are ordered to take place in consequence of the death of Lieutenant Colonel Edward Kenny.

First or Grenadier Regiment Native Infantry.

Senior Captain Francis F. Stanton to be Major, Lieutenant and Brevet Captain Robert McFarlane to be Captain of a company, vice Cleland promoted.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to direct that Commissions of the subaltern Officers who were promoted to the Brevet rank of Captain by the Government General Orders of the 14th of March 1818 and 6th of February 1819, be antedated from the 8th to 1st of Jan. of those years respectively.

The Right Honorable the Governor in Council is pleased to republish the following part of the Government General Orders of the 6th of October 1789, and to direct that the Orders therein contained be rigidly enforced in future.

Extract from General Orders by Government dated 6th of Oct: 1789.

The Military Board (which at present so satisfactorily performs this and every other part of their duty) and all Commandants of Garrisons, corps of Detachments are strongly recommended to make themselves acquainted with the necessity for the Indent they countersign for issue, as from their situation, they must be and are equally responsible to the Honorable Company for the propriety of them, with the person originally intending, and when by accident he is not forthcoming, they must be held solely answerable.

By Order of the Right Hon'ble the Governor in Council.

J. FARISH, Sec. to the Govt.

Domestic Occurrences.

MARRIAGES.

June 12. At Bombay, by the Reverend Mr. Wade, Lieutenant Charles Prager King, of the Bengal Establishment, to Miss Jane Margaretta Brownell.

BIRTHS.

May 10. At Goruckpore, the Lady of W. T. Robertson, Esq. of the Civil Service, of a Son.
 June 16. At Bombay, the Lady of B. Doveton, Esq. of a Daughter.
 16. At Bombay, the Lady of O. Woodhouse, Esq. of a Son.
 July 10. At Calcutta, Mrs. A. Mendes, of a Son.
 17. At Cannanore, the Lady of Mr. Assistant Surgeon McFarlane, of a Daughter.

DEATHS.

Mar. 26. At Sea, Captain George Hunter, Sub-Assistant Commissary General—sincerely and deservedly regretted.
 June 1. At Kaira; Lieutenant Colonel Kenny, aged 40 years.
 11. At Courtallum, Colonel Charles Trotter, aged 51 years.
 July 10. At Calcutta, Charles Lambert, Esq. aged 25 years.
 11. At Calcutta, Donald Richard, the Infant Son of Mr. R. F. Crow, aged 15 months.

EUROPE MARRIAGES.

The following detached paragraphs are from the County Chronicle of January 5, a London Paper intended for county circulation:

The Honorable Mr. Gordon left London for Vienna, to relieve Lord Steuart, who is returning home to pursue his matrimonial speculation with Miss Tempest—There are some rumours of a change in the young lady's mind.

A celebrated Vocalist of Covent Garden Theatre is, according to report, shortly to become an Irish Countess—Miss Stephens, we suppose, is the lady alluded to.

EUROPE DEATHS.

A poor sailor who fought at Algiers, in a fit of despair arising from want, attempted to destroy himself at Gosport, by making a wound in his right side three inches long, and when the bowels protuded, he cut off three inches of the large intestine called the colon! After lying bleeding an hour and a half, he was discovered, when a surgeon was called, who united the two extremities of the bowel, and it is said he is likely to recover.

Shipping Intelligence.

CALCUTTA ARRIVALS.

July. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From whence	Left
11 Mustapha	British	J. A. Hurst	Bombay	June 6
11 Haldane	British	D. Wilson	Madras	July 3

CALCUTTA DEPARTURES.

(None)

MADRAS ARRIVALS.

June. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From whence	Left
20 Euphrates	British	P. Mearing	Bushire	May 2

MADRAS DEPARTURES.

June. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
21 Euphrates	British	P. Mearing	Calcutta
24 Victoria	British	M. Gonsalves	Cortoga

BOMBAY ARRIVALS.

June. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	From whence	Left
13 Minerva	British	F. Jolliffe	Calcutta	April 1

BOMBAY DEPARTURES.

June. Names of Vessels	Flags	Commanders	Destination
11 Hyperion	British	T. Lashly	Calcutta
11 John Taylor	British	G. Atkinson	Liverpool
11 Bourbon	French	M. Rondeau	Bordeaux
11 America	Amer.	E. Rositer	Calcutta
11 Waterloo	British	S. Lovell	London
12 Cerberus	British	A. Fotheringham	London
12 Maria	British	H. Williams	Calcutta
15 Aimable Peggy	French	A. Fourner	Bordeaux
18 Barkworth	British	J. Fraser	London

Printed at the Union Press, in Garstin's Buildings, near the Bankhall and the Exchange.

Passengers.

Passengers arrived at Calcutta on the Mustapha.

Captain G. Georgeon; Mr. James Kelly; Mr. Robert Combs.

Passengers embarked from Bombay on the Hyperion.

Lieutenant Hughes; T. Whitney, Esq.; Mrs. Whitney; H. Minto, Esq.; Major Parby, of the Madras Establishment.

On the John Taylor.

Mr. G. Darley; Mrs. E. Darley; Master G. Darley.

On the America.

Hugh Chambers, Esq.; Mr. T. M. Roque, Supercargo.

On the Waterloo.

Lieutenant Lowe, His Majesty's 47th Regiment, and Family.

On the Barkworth.

Mr. Henry Guerson, Merchant; Mr. Hutley, Mariner.

Nautical Notices.

The Hercules, J. Henderson, for Valparaiso, dropped down the river yesterday, and intends touching at Pitcairn's Island.

The John Shore, J. Williams, and Danish ship Hooghly, P. Johnson, for Penang, Malacca and China, are expected to sail from hence shortly.

The ship Seaforth, Captain Davis, from Liverpool the 5th of February, arrived at Madras on the 26th of June, but having no passengers on board.

Chinese Life Preserver.

The following description of a Life Preserver invented by the Chinese, and in use among them nearly a century ago, we have met with in an old Number of the London Magazine for 1759, and we think it sufficiently curious to deserve a place among our notices of nautical inventions and discoveries.

"In the year 1730," says the writer, "I was passenger in a ship from Batavia to China, burthen about 400 tons, called the Pridaude, Francisco Xavier, commander, freighted by English, Chinese, and Portuguese. Near the coast of China we met one of those storms called a typhoon (*taw fong*) or a great wind, which carried away all our masts, bowsprit, and rudder; and in our hold we had six feet of water, expecting every moment the ship would founder. We consequently were consulting for our preservation. The English and Portuguese stood in their shirts only, ready to be thrown off; but the Chinese merchants came upon deck, not in a cork jacket, but I will call it a bamboo habit, which had lain ready in their chests against such dangers; and it was thus constructed: four bamboos, two before and two behind their bodies, were placed horizontally, and projected about twenty-eight inches; these were crossed on each side by two others, and the whole property secured, leaving a space for their body, so that they had only to put it over their heads, and tie the same securely, which was done in two minutes; and we were satisfied they could not possibly sink."

Commercial Reports.

The following is an extract of a letter from Manchester, dated the 20th of January, 1819:—

"One of the most respectable mercantile houses in this town, that of Mr. John Kelsall, stopped payment this day. The failure of this house, from the known integrity and respectability of the principal, has caused considerable alarm and consternation; but great hopes are entertained, that when the affairs come to be wound up, the assets will be found nearly sufficient to cover the claims upon it; which, however, are stated to be to a large amount. I am given to understand that the failure of this house has been entirely owing to an over degree of speculation with the South American market. The merchants of which place complain heavily of that avaricious spirit of speculation, which has contributed so largely to the decline of the markets."

[London Paper.]